

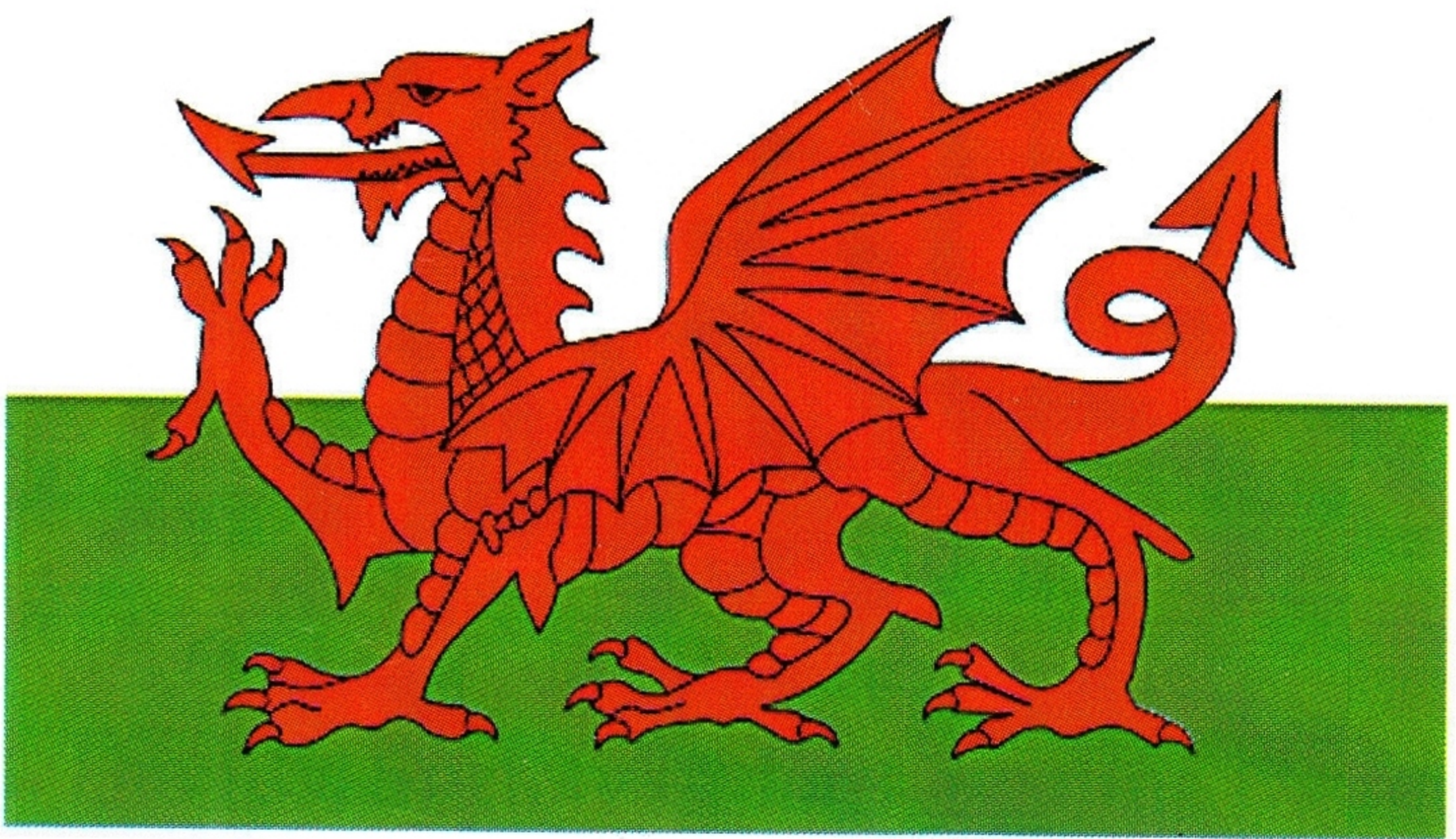
Saint David's Day Dinner

March 1, 2010

Carbondale, PA 18407

St. David's Annual Dinner

March 1, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.



**Trinity Episcopal Church
58 River Street
Carbondale, PA 18407**

Co-hosted by:

**City of Carbondale
Carbondale Historical Society
St. David's Society of Lackawanna County**

PROGRAM

Introduction	<i>Brian Kaeb</i>
The Welsh National Anthem	<i>Susan Drake</i>
Pledge of Allegiance	<i>Brian Kaeb</i>
American National Anthem	<i>Susan Drake</i>
Welcome	<i>Dr. S. Robert Powell</i>
Invocation	<i>Rev. Don Schaible</i> <i>Trinity Episcopal Church</i>

Dinner

Speaker	Richard M. Loomis, PhD
	<i>Singing in Welsh</i>
	O bydded i'r heniaith barhau!

Awards	<i>Brian Kaeb, St. David's Society</i>
Dr. S. Robert Powell	<i>Carbondale Historical Society</i>
Musical Program	<i>St. David's Male Chorus</i>
Benediction	<i>Rev. Margo Tomlinson</i> <i>First Presbyterian Church</i>

RICHARD M. LOOMIS, PhD

Richard M. Loomis, a native of Denver, received his doctorate from Cornell University in 1959, specializing in Medieval and Renaissance literature. He taught English at King's College in Wilkes-Barre from 1956 to 1970, and at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY, from 1970 to 1992, and then retired to Wilkes-Barre. He and his wife Mary have two sons, Leonard and Mario. He made his first trip to Wales in 1972. He has published translations of Dafydd ap Gwilym, Gerald of Wales, and Guto'r Glyn, as well as early Arthurian narratives. He is active in NEPA Welsh heritage activities and is a member of the Wyoming Valley Saint David's Society.

ST. DAVID'S MALE CHORUS

St. David's Male Chorus was organized in 1949 by Mr. William Hughes of Scranton and patterned after traditional male choruses in Wales. Today, the chorus is composed of gentlemen of many nationalities, and the only requirement is a love of singing.

The Chorus is very active, singing for churches, civic and social organizations, and nursing and retirement homes. They present a varied program of Broadway, Patriotic and folk songs, holiday music as appropriate and Welsh melodies.

There are presently 14 members singing, accompanied by Mr. Gene Hopkins, and Directed by Mrs. Frances Justin.



City of Carbondale, Pennsylvania

PROCLAMATION NUMBER 2010-5

WHEREAS, Welsh men and women came into this valley in Northeastern Pennsylvania from the farms, industrial areas, and mountains of Wales, beginning in the second decade of the nineteenth century to establish their homes and new lives; and

WHEREAS, the Welsh who came here helped construct the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad from Carbondale to Honesdale, then worked in the company's anthracite mines in Carbondale and on the company's rail line in Honesdale; and

WHEREAS, these Welsh men and women, pioneers in the fullest sense of the word, were God-fearing folks and here, in what was then a virtual wilderness, established, within a decade of their arrival, no less than three houses of worship: the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church, the First Baptist Church, and the Welsh Congregational Church; and

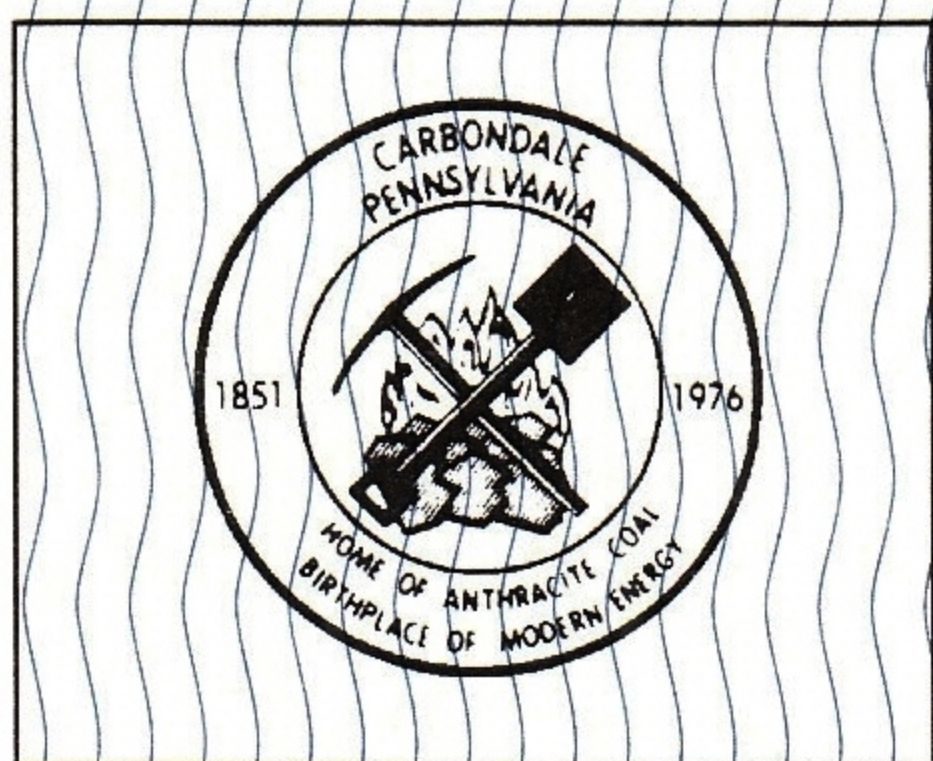
WHEREAS, the Welsh belief that the family and the church play a key role in community life, together with the energy, industry, ambition, desire to succeed, and capacity for hard work, these Welsh pioneers played a key role in the transformation of the village of Carbondale into a thriving industrial town and ultimately the "Pioneer City" of Lackawanna County; and

WHEREAS, those worthy Welsh men and women bequeathed to their families and to us, the community, a rich heritage, which we commemorate and celebrate today.

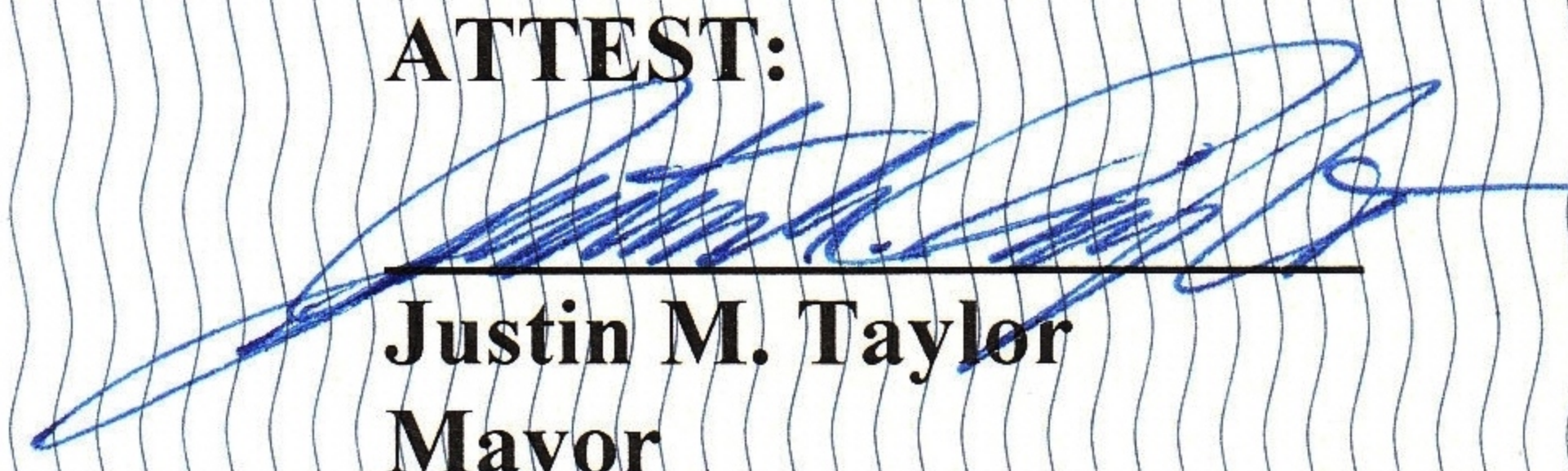
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Justin M. Taylor, Mayor of the City of Carbondale, Pennsylvania, do hereby acknowledge those assembled here and those who inaugurated this celebration of Carbondale's Welsh heritage. In addition, I do hereby proclaim *Monday, March 1, 2010* as

WELSH HERITAGE DAY

and ask that all citizens recognize and commemorate this day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the importance of the Welsh people to our City's history.



ATTEST:


Justin M. Taylor
Mayor



























ninnauTM



Periodicals Postage
PAID
at Basking Ridge, NJ

The North American Welsh Newspaper®
Papur Bro Cymry Gogledd AmericaTM
Incorporating Y DRYCHTM

Carbondale Welsh Hear Scranton Choir



The Scranton Saint David's Welsh Male Chorus, Mrs. Frances Justin, Director, Mr. Gene Hopkins, accompanist, presented a concert of Welsh music, and a much-applauded medley of songs from the Broadway show My Fair Lady. The chorus was organized in 1949 by William Hughes of Scranton and patterned after the traditional male choruses in Wales. There are presently 14 members in the Chorus, including Carbondale native Bob Vandenberg (on the far right). Story on page 20,

Welsh Heritage Celebrated in Pennsylvania's Lackawanna Valley

By the Carbondale Saint David's Day Committee

See also picture on page 1.

In 2004, the Carbondale Historical Society made a commitment to celebrate the Welsh heritage of Carbondale and the Lackawanna Valley with an annual Welsh heritage evening on St. David's Day. Highly successful Saint David's Day dinners have been held annually in Carbondale since then.

This year, to commemorate that Welsh heritage and to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society, a Welsh Heritage Evening was held in the Durfee Parish Hall of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Carbondale on Monday, March 1.

Following a formal welcome to the Welsh Heritage Evening by Brian Kaeb, president of the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society, Susan Drake, accompanied by Gene Hopkins on the piano, sang in English and then in impeccable Welsh the Welsh National Anthem, "Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau (Land of My Fathers)." This was followed by a salute to the American flag by the entire assembly and a beautiful performance of "The Star Spangled Banner" by Ms. Drake.

The evening continued with the serving of a highly acclaimed roast pork with prune and apple stuffing dinner, catered by Carbondale's well known restaurateur Bob McDonnell. Among the 120 guests at the formal sit-down dinner were members of the Welsh community from throughout the Lackawanna Valley, among whom were David Thomas, president of the Wyoming Valley Saint David's Society, and representatives of the region's primary ethnic organizations, as well as representatives from the Waymart Area Historical Society, the Lackawanna County Historical Society, the Jermyn Historical Society, and the Dunmore Historical Society.

The dinner began with an invocation offered by the Rev. Donald Schaible, pastor of the

Guto'r Glyn, as well as early Arthurian narratives, spoke on the topic "Singing In Welsh (O bydded i'r heniaith barhau)."

Following Dr. Loomis' talk, which was well received, Lackawanna County Commissioner Michael Washo, and Carbondale Mayor, the Honorable Justin M. Taylor, both issued proclamations to mark the day and asked that all citizens recognize and commemorate the day with appropriate ceremonies in honor of the Welsh people in Carbondale and the Lackawanna Valley.

Brian Kaeb then presented Dr. S. Robert Powell, president of the Carbondale Historical Society, an award from the Lackawanna County St. David's Society in recognition and appreciation of his continuing work to preserve and promote the Welsh heritage of the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania.

In accepting the award and expressing his thanks to the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society for the award, Dr. Powell remarked, "How thrilled they would be, those Welsh ancestors of ours, to know that more than 180 years after their arrival here in the Lackawanna Valley that we are met here tonight to celebrate and commemorate our Welsh heritage."

Dr. Powell then noted that there are many Welsh tombstones in Carbondale's Maplewood Cemetery, including one that marks the grave of Mary Davis, who died on January 30, 1832, at the age of 44. Mary Davis was the wife of the Rev. John Davis, who were among the 20 Welsh families who were brought to Carbondale from Wales by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company in the late 1820s for the specific purpose of teaching the D&H the techniques and procedures of deep underground anthracite coal mining.

The Scranton Saint David's Welsh Male Chorus, Mrs. Frances Justin, Director, and Mr. Gene Hopkins, accompanist, then presented a concert of Welsh music and a much-applauded medley of songs from the Broadway show "My

traditional male choruses in Wales. There are presently 14 members in the Chorus, including Carbondale native Bob Vandenberg. The Chorus is very active, singing for churches, civic, and social organizations, as well as nursing and retirement homes. They present a varied program of Broadway, patriotic, folk songs, and holiday music, as appropriate.

This year's Saint David's Day commemorative events in Carbondale began with the raising of the Welsh flag on one of the flagpoles in Carbondale's Memorial Park at 10 a.m. A photograph of this flag raising, by Tom Flannery of the "Carbondale News," was published on page one of the March 10, 2010 issue of the newspaper.

Present at the flag raising ceremony were Lackawanna County Commissioner, Michael Washo; Brian Kaeb, president of the Lackawanna County Saint David's Day Society; Carbondale City Councilman John Gigliotti; Carbondale Community Development Director Christine Tocki-Mulvey (standing in for Carbondale Mayor, the Honorable Justin Taylor, who was unable to attend because of a previous commitment); Ted Frutche; Jerry Williams; Tudor Williams; Lackawanna County Saint David's Day Society; Lackawanna County Commissioner, Corey O'Brien; Barbara Campbell; Joseph Pascoe; and Dr. S. Robert Powell, Carbondale Historical Society.

The Welsh Heritage Evening in Carbondale on St. David's Day concluded with appropriate closing remarks by Dr. Powell from the Historical Society, who thanked Ted Frutche and Jerry Williams, both of whom "went the extra mile on a hundred different occasions to guarantee the success of this year's Welsh Heritage Evening," and asked that they stand and receive a round of applause from the dinner guests.

Before offering a benediction at the close of the evening, the Rev. Donald Schaible, pastor of the Trinity Episcopal Church, then invited the dinner guests, before leaving the church, to

Society, and the Dunmore Historical Society.

The dinner began with an invocation offered by the Rev. Donald Schaible, pastor of the Trinity Episcopal Church. As the dinner was being served, the president of the Carbondale Historical Society, Dr. S. Robert Powell, passed among the tables, on which were laid linen tablecloths and napkins, and which were embellished with bouquets of daffodils and leeks, and placed on each table a china teapot, filled with genuine British tea. The China teapots were provided for the occasion by Historical Society members Joseph Pascoe, Barbara Campbell, and S. R. Powell.

Homemade Welsh cookies, made by Barbara Campbell, Lynda Nepa, Claudia Lopatofsky, and Susan Mazza, were at each place setting, in the form of a dinner favor.

As dessert was being served, Brian Kaeb, president of the Lackawanna County St. David's Society, introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Dr. Richard M. Loomis, a native of Denver, with a Ph.D from Cornell University in Medieval and Renaissance Literature.

Dr. Loomis, who taught English at King's College in Wilkes-Barre from 1956 to 1970 and at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY, from 1970 to 1992, and who has published translations of Dafydd ap Gwilym, Gerald of Wales, and

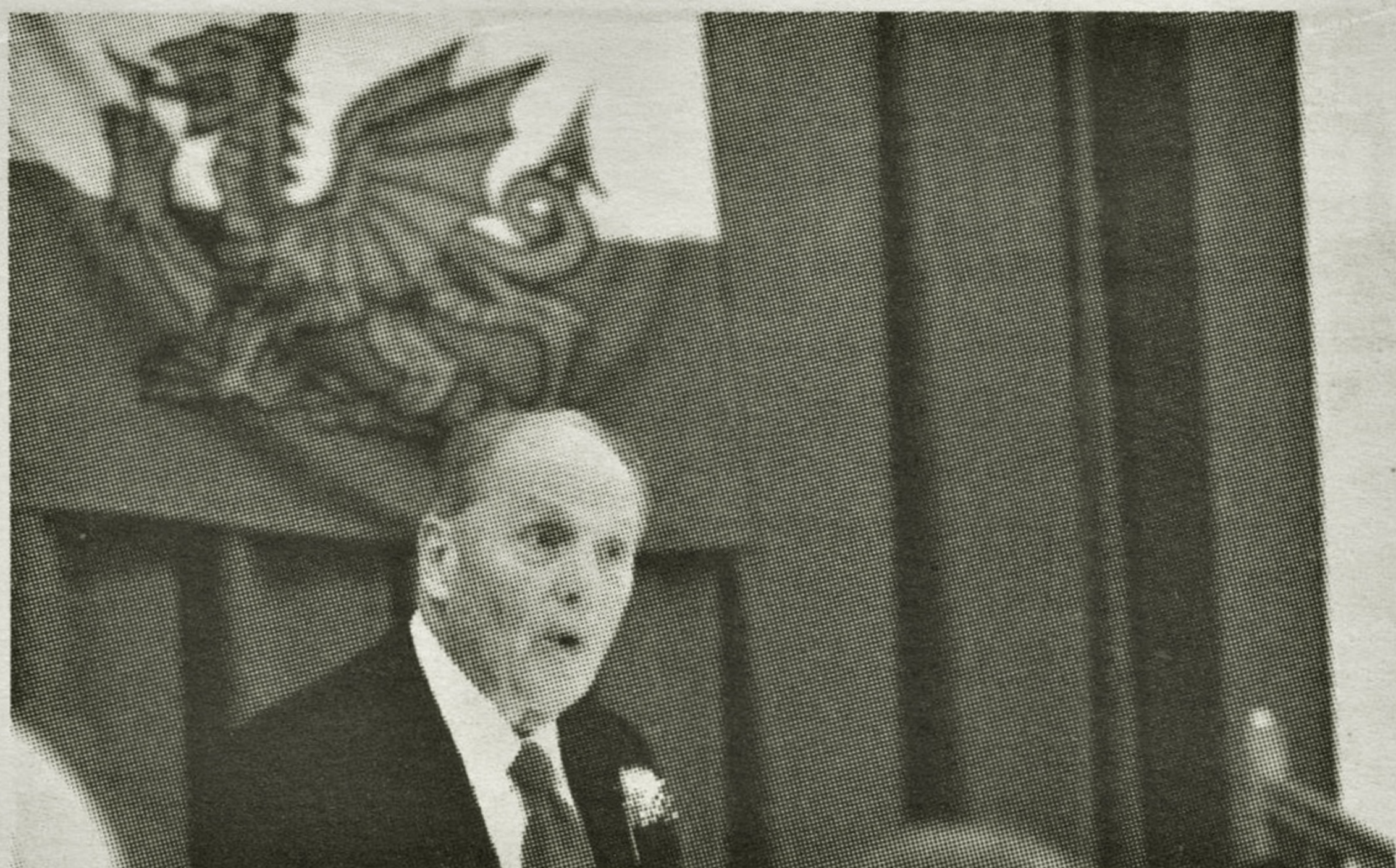
Mr. Gene Hopkins, accompanist, then presented a concert of Welsh music and a much-applauded medley of songs from the Broadway show "My Fair Lady."

The chorus was organized in 1949 by William Hughes of Scranton and patterned after the

at the close of the evening, the Rev. Donald Schaible, pastor of the Trinity Episcopal Church, then invited the dinner guests, before leaving the church, to visit the very beautiful main sanctuary of the church, in which there are several Tiffany stained glass windows.



Brian Kaeb presented Dr. S. Robert Powell a commemorative wall plaque award from the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society in recognition and appreciation of his continuing work to preserve and promote the Welsh heritage of the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania.



Guest speaker, Dr. Richard M. Loomis, a native of Denver, with a PhD from Cornell University in Medieval and Renaissance literature. Dr. Loomis, who has published translations of Dafydd ap Gwilym, Gerald of Wales, and Guto'r Glyn, as well as early Arthurian narratives, spoke on the topic "Singing In Welsh (O bydded i'r heniaith barhau)" at the Carbondale Welsh Heritage Evening.



At the speakers' stand, Lackawanna County Commissioner Michael Washo and Brian Kaeb, president of the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society; in the foreground, in profile, left, Joseph Pascoe; right, Jerry Williams



The guest speaker for the evening, Dr. Richard M. Loomis; David Thomas, president of the Wyoming Valley Saint David's Society; and Dr. S. Robert Powell, president of the Carbondale Historical Society and Museum.

The Welsh Pioneer Settlers of Carbondale, Pennsylvania, and Two Welsh "Firsts" for the Pioneer City

By Dr. S. Robert Powell

The Delaware and Hudson Canal Company's Gravity Railroad from Carbondale (the "pioneer" or oldest incorporated city in Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania) to Honesdale opened on October 29, 1829. In the period 1829-1831, the D&H obtained coal by (1) quarrying coal from exposed outcrops on the surface, or (2) establishing levels, drifts (a mine opening is driven directly into the coal bed itself at a slight *upward* inclination) and slopes (a mine opening is driven directly into the coal bed itself at a slight *downward* inclination).

The first coal that was mined in Carbondale was from a level (located at the foot of what was later known as Davies' Plane/Plane No. 28) in the bed of the river. The water was diverted from its channel in the river and a level was run into the hill. The coal was run out on a wheelbarrow. This was called Inghram's level. In 1829, a tunnel was driven on the opposite side of the river at old No. 1 drift. This drift was worked till 1857. No. 2 drift, west of No. 1, was opened in 1830.

When it was no longer possible for the D&H to mine enough coal by means of these early levels, drifts, and slopes, the decision was made to establish mine shafts and to carry on deep underground mining.

Company, on a site just west of what was, in the twentieth century, the D&H Seventh Avenue crossing in Carbondale.

In October/November of the following year, 1832, a second large party of Welsh miners and their families arrived in Carbondale. The men of this party numbered about seventy, but as they were nearly all married and brought their wives and children with them the population of the mining settlement was increased by nearly two hundred.

These Welsh pioneers were soon followed by many thousands of Welsh men and women and their families who came here to work in the anthracite coal fields and to begin new lives for themselves.

Associated with these pioneer Welsh settlers and their descendants in Carbondale and in the Lackawanna Valley are two very interesting and important "firsts" in the history of the Welsh in America.

First Eisteddfod in America

On Christmas day, 1850, in Carbondale, the first eisteddfod to be held in America took place. Among the literarians and musicians who attended, the pioneer eisteddfodwyr of America, were Daniel Davies, Rev. John Moses, Thomas Eynon, Rev. Thomas J. Phillips (Cyw Ionawr), and Edward Jones.

In the years thereafter, an eisteddfod was held regularly on Christmas Day in Carbondale. The laudable and praiseworthy object of these annual Welsh festival gatherings on Christmas Day was announced as "the cultivation of Welsh literature, the art of speaking and writing, and the development of musical talent among our citizens, by the distribution of prizes to those who excel in these various branches of science and art."

First Ivorite Lodge in America

In the fall of 1853, a few patriotic Welshmen, inspired by a praiseworthy and benevolent





Close up of the tablet on the monument in Carbondale on the site of the first deep underground anthracite shaft mine in America.

A shaft is a vertical opening from the surface, penetrating one or more coal beds and intervening rock strata. A shaft is usually divided into two or more compartments. A typical shaft has two hoistways: one through which the loaded mine cars are brought to the surface on cages; the other in which empty cars are lowered in the same manner.

To secure the expertise needed to establish shaft mines, the D&H recruited, in 1830, twenty mining families from Wales to teach the D&H how to establish shaft mines and to conduct deep underground anthracite coal mining.

Those 20 Welsh families left Wales on May 6, 1830, arriving in New York on July 2, and in Carbondale on July 14, 1830. They provided the expertise needed by the D&H to establish and to work deep underground anthracite mines.

The first deep underground shaft mine in the Lackawanna Valley was opened in Carbondale in June, 1831 by Archbald Law, first mining engineer of the Delaware and Hudson Canal

In the years thereafter, an eisteddfod was held regularly on Christmas Day in Carbondale. The laudable and praiseworthy object of these annual Welsh festival gatherings on Christmas Day was announced as "the cultivation of Welsh literature, the art of speaking and writing, and the development of musical talent among our citizens, by the distribution of prizes to those who excel in these various branches of science and art."

First Ivorite Lodge in America

In the fall of 1853, a few patriotic Welshmen, inspired by a praiseworthy and benevolent sentiment, organized an Ivorite lodge in Carbondale—the germ of "The Philanthropic Order of True Ivorites" in America. The Ivoriads held their first celebration in America in Carbondale in August 1855 with a procession and other public exercises. The procession paraded through the principal streets of Carbondale, under the direction of Thomas Voyle, Esquire, as chief marshal, aided by Edward Roberts, Esquire, assistant.

The following description of that procession is given in an article ("Ivorites"), that was published in the *Carbondale Transcript and Lackawanna Journal* on August 10, 1855, page 2:

"... We were highly pleased with the decorum manifested by the members in the procession, their unique and uniform dress, consisting of black frock coat, white pants, white gloves and cravats, with the regularity in marching, to the sweet music from the Carbondale Brass Band. . . they paraded through the principal streets of our city, under the direction of Thomas Voyle, Esq. as chief marshal, aided by Edward Roberts, Esq., assistant. Mr. Voyle looked well mounted on his beautiful charger, a true type and representative of the renowned Ivor-the-



The monument on the site of the first deep underground anthracite shaft mine in America is shown here in Carbondale on the north side of Seventh Avenue, on the west side of the D&H tracks, at the Seventh Avenue crossing in Carbondale.

Little, or *Ivor-bach*. After the parade, they adjourned to the Welsh Baptist Church, where suitable and appropriate addresses were delivered, on the origin, progress and destiny of the Ivorites."

"The meeting was presided over with great dignity by Robert S. Roberts, Esq., President of the Order,—and the following gentlemen addressed the large and intelligent audience: Enoch Jones, ex-president, Thomas M. Jones, ex-vice-president, Wm. E. Jones, John Jenkins, Sen., Thomas J. Phillips, Evan Lumley, Llewelyn Hughes, Rev David Williams, and Rev. William Evans; and from what we learn of the proceedings, some of the addresses were characterized by deep historical research—ardent patriotism, and a deep and abiding love for the language, mountains and valleys of their native Kymru. . . We wish success to the Ivorites; may their little Lodge in Carbondale become the mighty Oak, whose branches shall extend over every Welsh settlement in America, and bear fruit an hundred fold, in propagating the principles of Brotherly Love, Charity, and Truth."

father of the American Ivorites." Based on the article, referenced above, that was published in the *Carbondale Transcript and Lackawanna Journal* on August 10, 1855, we can affirm that that honor (the father of the Ivorites in America) goes not to Benjamin Hughes but to the patriotic Welshmen who organized an Ivorite lodge in the city of Carbondale in the fall of 1853, that lodge being the germ of the order in America.

The Order of True Ivorites, though conducted in English since 1935, was reduced by 1967 to one men's and four women's lodges, and disbanded in 1974.

From VanBuskirk's informative article that was published in

Ninnau in 2006, we learn that "Recently, the National Welsh-American Foundation adopted an honorary Ivorite degree. This milestone has been established to recognize noteworthy individuals and institutions whose personal activities bring honor to the overall Welsh tradition and heritage, most especially those that reflect efforts exemplifying the motto of the first Ivorites: Friendship, Love and Truth. Upon nomination and election by the board of directors of the National Welsh-American Foundation, these recognized individuals will be celebrated and distinguished by public acknowledgement and elevation to the honorary American Ivorite."



addresses were characterized by deep historical research—ardent patriotism, and a deep and abiding love for the language, mountains and valleys of their native Kymru. . . We wish success to the Ivorites; may their little Lodge in Carbondale become the mighty Oak, whose branches shall extend over every Welsh settlement in America, and bear fruit an hundred fold, in propagating the principles of Brotherly Love, Charity, and Truth."

The Philanthropic Order of True Ivorites, in which there were three degrees—Blue, White, and Gold--was one of many friendly and mutual societies that sprang up in Wales during the nineteenth century. The golden years of the group were between 1840 and 1870. No active lodges are known to exist today.

From the article by William VanBuskirk that was published in the July 1, 2006 issue of *Ninnau*, on page 11, we learn that "The Ivorite Order, whose motto was: 'Cyfeillgarwch, Cariad a Gwirionedd (Friendship, Love and Truth), was established in Wrexham in 1836 by Thomas Robert Jones ('Gwerfulyn', 1802-1856) and was the only society which was exclusively Welsh. The Ivorites were named after Ifor Hael (Ivor the Generous) who was the patron of Dafydd ap Gwilyn (David son of William), the 14th century poet, who lived at Bassaleg, Monmouthshire."

VanBuskirk credits Benjamin Hughes (1824-1900), one of the most important figures in the history of Scranton's Hyde Park section, as the organizer of the Ivorites' Society in Scranton, and notes that Hughes was its first American Grand President, a position in which he served for nine years.

VanBuskirk also notes that Hughes "was thought of as the



White Rose Presbyterian Church held its first service on March 6, 1910.

Church Celebrates Centenary

(Continued from page 1)

recited scripture verses. Jane Marie Erickson, Pine River, sang a solo in English and Welsh, and a men's chorus provided additional special music.

The Wild Rose Presbyterian Church building was constructed by the Horeb Congregation, a branch of the Welsh Prairie Presbytery of the Calvinist Methodist Church (later Presbyterian). The congregation

had been chartered three years earlier in November of 1907, and had worshiped in the Rose Town Hall until their own building was ready.

Margaret and Lois Walters, still active and vital members of the Wild Rose Presbyterian Church, attended that first service in 1910, with their family. Lois Walters attended church, as usual, for the anniversary celebration on March 7.

April 23, 2010

Around Town

Welsh Heritage Remembered *Gathering Celebrates Saint David's Day*

In 2004, the Carbondale Historical Society made a commitment to celebrate the Welsh heritage of Carbondale and the Lackawanna Valley with an annual Welsh heritage evening on Saint David's Day. Highly successful Saint David's Day dinners have been held annually in Carbondale since then, and this year was no exception. This year was also the centennial anniversary of the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society. The event was held at the Trinity Episcopal Church, River Street, in Carbondale.

The 120 guests at the formal dinner heard the Welsh national anthem sung in English and Welsh and enjoyed a dinner of roast pork. Homemade Welsh cookies were also at each place setting. The guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Richard M. Loomis,

who spoke about singing in Welsh.

Dr. S. Robert Powell, president of the Carbondale Historical Society, was presented with a commemorative wall plaque award from the Lackawanna County Saint David's Society in recognition and appreciation of his continuing work to preserve and promote the Welsh heritage of the Lackawanna Valley of Pennsylvania.

"How thrilled they would be, those Welsh ancestors of ours, to know that more than 180 years after the arrival here in Carbondale in the late 1820s of those pioneer Welsh settlers in the Lackawanna Valley, that we are met here tonight to celebrate and commemorate our Welsh heritage," Powell said.


The Scranton Saint David's Welsh Male Chorus then presented a concert of traditional Welsh music.



From left: the guest speaker for the evening, Dr. Richard M. Loomis; David Thomas, president of the Wyoming Valley Saint David's Society; and Dr. S. Robert Powell, president of the Carbondale Historical Society and Museum.



The Scranton Saint David's Welsh Male Chorus presented a concert of Welsh music.



In Memory of
MARY Wife of the Rev^d JOHN DAVIS
A native of Llanhamlet in Wales Who
died June 30th 1832 aged 44 Years.

Canyw byw i mi yw Crist a marw sydd sly

Translation

For me to live is Christ to die is gain